

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/021,425	10/30/2001	Suzanne L. Bolten	3196/00 US	2066
26648 7.	590 08/30/2004		EXAMINER	
PHARMACIA CORPORATION GLOBAL PATENT DEPARTMENT			PATTERSON, CHARLES L JR	
POST OFFICE BOX 1027 ST. LOUIS, MO 63006			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1652	

DATE MAILED: 08/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
		SUZANNE ET AL.			
Office Action Summary	10/021,425 Examiner	Art Unit			
•		1652			
The MAILING DATE of this communication ap	Charles L. Patterson, Jr.				
Period for Reply		<i>5.7. 66p 6.7.</i> 46.762			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPL THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1. after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a replif NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statut Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).		nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).			
Status					
1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>02</u> .	June 2004.				
	s action is non-final.				
	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.				
Disposition of Claims					
4) ⊠ Claim(s) <u>2-10,12,13,15-56 and 58-83</u> is/are p 4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>3-9,30-34,36-45,50-55</u> Simplified Simplif	-56 and 59-77 is/are withdrawn froi 80-83 is/are rejected.	n consideration.			
Application Papers					
9) The specification is objected to by the Examin	er.				
10)⊠ The drawing(s) filed on <u>30 October 2001</u> is/are: a)⊠ accepted or b)□ objected to by the Examiner.					
Applicant may not request that any objection to the	Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).				
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the E	,	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119					
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreig a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documer 2. Certified copies of the priority documer 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Burea * See the attached detailed Office action for a list	nts have been received. Its have been received in Applicationity documents have been received au (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	on No ed in this National Stage			
Attachment(s)					
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary				
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 	Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	ate atent Application (PTO-152)			

Art Unit: 1652

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 10, 12-13, 15-26, 28-29, 35, 46-49 and 80-83 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for nucleic acids of SEQ ID NO:1 or that hybridize under high stringency conditions to SEQ ID NO:1, does not reasonably provide enablement for claims of the scope of the instant claims. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. This rejection is repeated for the reasons given in the last action. Applicants arguments have been carefully considered but do not overcome the instant rejection. This rejection is repeated for the reasons given in the last action. Applicants arguments have been carefully considered but do not overcome the instant rejection.

On page 11 of applicants' reply six pages and line numbers in the specification are referred to. Apparently applicants are using another version of the specification as the examiner cannot find what is indicated at these pages and lines. For example, Example 20 is stated to be on page 60, line 29 to page 62, line 19, when in the specification submitted for prosecution it is on page 67, line 12 to page 69, line 8. Applicants also state that "[t]he selective activity demonstrated in Example 20 is aligned with that activity shown in Dutta, et al. (page 3, lines 27-29)." There is no indication as to what "Dutta, et al." refers to but the examiner has found such a reference in the IDS filed 7/11/03. However the is no "page 3" in this reference. The

Art Unit: 1652

reference teaches that spores of Aspergillus ochraceus will transform progesterone into it 11α -hydroxy derivative. It is not know what is meant by "aligned with that activity".

Applicants state that "[a]ndrostenedione is properly classified as a 3 keto delta 4,5 steroid" but offer not proof of this statement. They then state that "[t]he structure of androstenedione is also known (page 18, line 6)", but as stated supra, the information referred to here is not at that page and line. They also state that "[o]ne of skill in the art is in the possession of standard steroid carbon numbering schema" and offer a reference showing this. The examiner agrees that the ordinary artisan knows the steroid numbering scheme but as applicants offer no convincing proof as to the structure of androstenedione or that it is a 3 keto delta 4,5 steroid, the examiner cannot further evaluate these statements or the instant claims in view of them.

The examiner has dropped claim 2, 27, 58 and 78-79 from the instant 35 USC § 112 first paragraph rejection because they are drawn to SEQ ID NO:1 or 2, or nucleic acid that hybridize under highly stringent conditions to SEQ ID NO:1. Claims 80-83 are drawn to nucleic acids that are outside these limitations. It is noted that claim 83 reads on any number whatsoever of conservative substitutions.

It is continued to be maintained that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be taught by the instant specification to make and/or use nucleic acids of the scope of the instant claims without undue experimentation.

Claims 2, 27, 58 and 78-79 are allowed.

Art Unit: 1652

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles L. Patterson, Jr., PhD, whose telephone number is 571-272-0936. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:30 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ponnathapura Achutamurthy, can be reached on 571-272-0928. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the

Art Unit: 1652

Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-

9197 (toll-free).

Charles L. Patterson, Jr.

Primary Examiner Art Unit 1652

Patterson August 24, 2004 Page 5